

THE SOCIETY OF NAVAL ARCHITECTS AND MARINE ENGINEERS
601 PAVONIA AVENUE, SUITE 400, JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY 07306

AGENDA #15

Report of the
Electronic Media Committee
for presentation to the Executive Committee
on Wednesday, December 6th, 1995

SNAME Web Site - Current Status

The Web site has been operational since just prior to the Annual Meeting in early October. The current capabilities of the Web site were demonstrated to the general membership following the President's Luncheon, and a booth was operational during the entire Annual Meeting.

Currently the web site includes the following "public" components which have no access restrictions:

- General SNAME Information
- General Announcements
- Bylaws / Code of Ethics
- HQ Staff, responsibilities, and contact numbers and e-mail addresses
- Committee Chairs and contacts
- Section Backgrounds / Section Officers and Contacts
- Section Meeting Schedule and Locations
- T&R Panel Chairs and Contacts

Short Term Web Priorities

The data entry for the publication database (Title, Author and Subject, without abstracts) is complete, and is in the process of being implemented on the Web. The following capabilities are under development for the "members only" section at this time and are planned to be go into operation within the next few months:

- Membership Directory On-Line
- Description of Publications and Ordering Information
- Search-able Index of SNAME Publications (without Abstracts)
- Topic Forums (similar to the BBS)
- Instructions and format for Paper Authors

1996 Web Site Priorities

The development of enhanced Web features are to be based on direction from the Executive Committee with consideration from the comments and suggestions from the membership. The current suggested priorities are as follows:

- Jobs Section (Jobs Available, Job Resume Posting , Student Jobs)
- Addition of Abstracts to Index of SNAME Publications
- Standard Word Processor Templates for Authors
- Membership Information
- On-Line Membership Application Form
- Enhanced Calendar of Upcoming Events and News
- Membership Database download for Section Officers
- SNAME Books and Accessories On-Line Ordering
- Links to other Maritime World Wide Web Sites
- On-Line Registration for SNAME Events plus continued updates:

Library File Downloads (similar to the BBS)

Meeting Minutes for Committees and Panels

Please note that the addition of abstracts to the current publications database will cost approximately \$25,000 (see the EBB Ad Hoc Group report to the June Executive Committee Meeting).

Developments in Electronic Media and Electronic Communications

Working with Jaime Horowicz, we are proceeding with the development and refinement of standard author instructions and templates in the commonly used word processing program formats.

Working with Eileen Bartell, Membership and Systems Administrator, we are continuing to assist headquarters in integrating their operation with the web site and the internet. We continue to believe that this integration is crucial to the long term maintenance and continuous improvement in SNAME's Web presence.

Video Conferencing

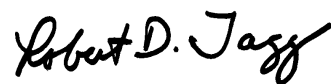
PC video conferencing is becoming increasingly affordable and may soon be a viable tool to increase national and international participation in Society committees and panels. Recent developments have resulted in reasonably good audio and visual extensions to standard PC computers. Several systems are now available for about \$2,000 to \$3000 per "seat", and it is anticipated that these cost may soon be under \$1,000. While these systems may eventually run on standard telephone connections or directly on the internet, the current systems require digital (ISDN) telephone lines. Most of the current systems conform to established international standards which means that different manufacturers can talk to each other, or existing corporate video conference centers, including multi-point conferences.

Proposal: The EM Committee and SNAME headquarters staff would set up a pilot project to test the usefulness of video conferencing. SNAME would set up and provide the funding for one "seat" along with the associated ISDN phone line. One or more additional pilot installations would be provided and funded by corporate sponsorship. (Herbert Engineering agrees to be the first.) The pilot system would be initially be used by the EM and Planning committees. The results of this pilot program, and recommendations as to how the Society might effectively use this technology, are to be presented to the Executive Committee next year. The cost to the Society for this pilot program are estimated at about \$2,500 for the system hardware, software and digital phone line installation; plus about \$500 to \$700 for 12 months operation of the digital phone line.

Action Requested of the Executive Committee

1. Endorse our plan for 1996 priorities for the SNAME Web site.
2. Approve funding to be provided for the development of the Abstracts for the Publication Database.
3. Approve funding for the pilot program for video conferencing.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Tagg
Chairman